

contractors are already at work upon the new bridge and it will be completed in a few months.

The burning of the warehouses at the North Carolina depot owned jointly by the two Roads, was the cause of some inconvenience. It has been covered by the Military authorities in an imperfect manner, and held and occupied by them until a recent period. The shipment of freight through, without breaking bulk, enables the Company to dispense with it as a warehouse, and it has been thought advisable, therefore, to have it fitted up for a passenger shed.

The burning of the warehouse at Huntsville has been attended with inconvenience to citizens of that neighborhood, but will be rebuilt and ready for the fall business. It has been next to impossible to put the Road in complete repair in one year, as the departments had all undergone great prostration during the war.

The Roadway needed a vast amount of labor, ditching, laying down new ties, replacing with better iron, &c. The several departments were without the usual supplies in material of almost every kind, and in addition to this there was no money in the Treasury, except as it was made by the earnings of the Road.

The operations of the Road were subject to much embarrassment for the want of those close connections, and the broken links in the great line of travel tended greatly to diminish the business of the Road.

In recounting the many difficulties under which the Road has to be operated, not the least inconsiderable is the competition of the Danville & Richmond Rail Road, now and for all time made formidable, by its connections at Greensboro' with the North Carolina Rail Road, by means of the Piedmont Road. However great the wisdom of future Legislatures, or however zealous for the interests of the State, no substantial relief can be given against the effects of the Charter for this Road in the first instance, and the alteration of the gauge in the second, and all internal improvements by Railroads in the State must suffer in common by the rivalry caused by this intersection; of the policy of such a course and its influence upon the State, the future will determine.